

a server having a first set of ports for communication between the external communications network and the server; the server having a second set of ports for communication between an internal communications network and the server;

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Cmcd. a first firewall in communication with the first set of ports and interposed to provide at least one interconnection between the first set of ports and the external communications network; and

a second firewall in communication with the second set of ports and interposed to provide a nonnegative integer number of interconnections between the first set of ports and the internal communications network.

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A3 5. (amended) The system according to claim 1 wherein the second firewall interconnection is only established for a limited duration on an as-needed basis for communications between an internal resource of one business entity and another business entity.

6. (amended) The system according to claim 1 wherein the first firewall and the second firewall comprise software instructions for execution by the server.

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The following set of claims are a marked-up version of the foregoing claims:

1. (amended) A system for providing electronic security for an internal resource [capable of] capable of communicating via an external communications network, the system comprising:

a server having a first set of ports for communication between the external communications network and the server; the server having a second set of ports for communication between an internal communications network and the server;

a first firewall in communication with the first set of ports and interposed to provide at least one interconnection between the first set of ports and the external communications network; and

a second firewall in communication with the second set of ports and interposed to provide a nonnegative integer number of interconnections between the first set of ports and the internal communications network.

5. (amended) The system according to claim 1 wherein the second firewall [has] interconnection is only established for a limited duration on an as-needed basis for communications between an internal resource of one business entity and another business entity.

6. (amended) The system according to claim 1 wherein the first firewall and the second firewall comprise software instructions for execution by the server.